

NOTES ON EDUCATION.

The committee on the course of study of the St. Louis School Board has recommended that the principle which underlies the Kindergarten system be extended to the primary schools, with a view of eventually modifying the whole plan of public instruction. The St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* commends the suggestion. The obstacles, it says, "which stand in the way of the adoption of the new method of imparting instruction are the difficulties of overcoming the conservative notions of parents and school wards, and of securing the right kind of teachers. It would seem as if a real science of teaching were at last striving for a foothold against educational dogma. It requires a higher order of instructor to appreciate what the juvenile mind is capable of receiving and digesting, and to give it that and no more, than it does to follow in the traditional rut. The one is scientific and carefully studies results, and preparation and more than ordinary intelligence are requisite, not to speak of an earnest interest in the work, to fit an individual for this species of teaching; the other almost any one can lack away at. The one makes teaching a legitimate profession; the other classifies it as a makeshift for people who do not know what else to do. When the immense amount of unscientific and, to speak plainly, brutal handling which the minds of children are made to undergo in the common schools, particularly in the rural districts, is considered, it makes one feel as if we were in the midst of a perpetual slaughter of the innocents."

It is said to be a fact that many schoolboys in Belgium, France and Germany are actually driven to suicide by too much study. For example, the hours at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, in Paris, are reported as follows: Five to 7 a.m., study; 8 to 12, instruction; 1 to 3 p.m., study; 3 to 4:30, lectures; 5 to 8, study—the study in all cases being in a public room under supervision. This means practically that miniature schoolboys are compelled to work their brains twelve and a half hours out of every twenty-four. It is said that a three years' course of this kind has produced few, if any, first rate scholars. To counteract such evils as this, the school board of Baden, in Germany, will hereafter have the local physician as an *officio* member, whose duty it shall be to look after the physical health of the school children. The idea is most praiseworthy, and might well be adopted in many places in this country where education is supposed to be synonymous with "cramming" for examinations.

In the course of a vigorous article opposing the proposition that the general Government should pass an appropriation for the purposes of education, The *St. Paul Pioneer-Press* shows from recent statistics that illiteracy is decreasing. "In the ten years," it says, "between the dates when these statistics were collected, but four States—California, Maine, Nevada and New-Hampshire—showed an increase in the percentage of illiterates. A light increase in the percentage of those who could not read is shown in Oregon; and in every other of the thirty-eight States the decrease of illiteracy is positive, often very marked. Some of the most notable changes are evident in those States which are most frequently used to point the moral and adorn the tale of national ill. Georgia has reduced the proportion of illiteracy about 7 per cent; Mississippi, that of those who cannot read, 6 per cent; North Carolina over 5 per cent; Tennessee not far from the same; and the case of Virginia, showing a reduction of nearly 10 per cent in both classes, is very marked. And so throughout the whole list the figures return a single verdict—that the States are dealing with the question of illiteracy in their own way, and that they are doing so effectively. Considering the material that they have to work upon, and the nature of their resources, those in which illiteracy is greatest are but little behind those in which it is least, in their efforts; and the cheering conclusion that the problem of education is being met and satisfactorily solved by the people everywhere is self-evident."

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A FASCINATING STORY OF CAVALRY LIFE IN INDIA.
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THE TRIBUNE, NEW YORK.

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For Boys and Young Men—City.

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CIRCULARS of best schools, with care.

ARNOLD SCHOOL, 29 East 46th-st. (cooper

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respondence, etc. Send circulars, etc., to Mr. A. M. LEWIS, Headmaster, at above address after Sep-

tember 1.

ARTHUR H. CUTLER'S SCHOOL FOR BOYS, No. 20 West 43d-st. Autumn term begins Wednesday, September 17.

Mr. Cutler will be at the school room after Monday, Sept. 17.

A.—COLUMBIA GRAMMAR SCHOOL, 100th Street, near Madison Avenue.

Autumn term begins MONDAY, Sept. 18, 1883.

Large and spacious building constructed expressly for school purposes. Large and completely equipped gymnasium. Thorough training for college, college school, business. Primary department, 100th Street, extra charge. Secondary department, 100th Street, extra charge. Applications should be made early.

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BOOKKEEPING, Arithmetic, Penmanship, Individual instruction, no classes. WHITMAN'S COUNTING BOOKS, 119 Broadway. Rooms 32 and 33.

BOOKKEEPING, Stenography, &c.—WAL-

WORTH & WILLSON'S New Business College, 108 and 110 East 23d-st. Large circulars mailed free.

BERKELEY SCHOOL, 100 Madison Avenue, between 42d and 43d Streets.

The head-master will be at the school daily after September 13, betw. 9 and 12 a.m.

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Prepared for business or law college, or scientific school.

Primary, middle and upper departments. Students prepared for business or law college, or scientific school.

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BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR BOYS AND YOUNG MEN at West Point, New York.

Prepared for all colleges, scientific schools, West Point Academy, West Point, New York, German, French, English, Latin, Spanish, etc.

New building erected, the school equipped with the latest apparatus.

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Thorough preparation for college (especially HARVARD, CORNELL and CORNELL) and scientific schools; fully equipped business courses; French and GERMAN taught; complete courses of regular scheme of instruction. NEW BUILDING, partly completed, large arrangements.

LARGE AND WELL-EQUIPPED GYMNASIUM.

F. G. IRELAND'S CLASS for BOYS, 111 West 3d-st., New York.

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Number limited. Mr. Ireland will be at home after September 15.

JON MCMULLIN'S SCHOOL, 1262 Broadway, corner 42d and 43d-sts., opposite Worcester Building, 11th floor. Short lessons thoroughly mastered. Fees to following rates:

Prof. Charles Short: The Rev. Howard Crosby, The Rev. Dr. W. H. Huntington, The Rev. Prof. G. H. Hitchcock, The Rev. Prof. G. L. White, The Rev. E. N. White, The Rev. Edward Bright, The Rev. Prof. C. Briggs, The Rev. Prof. Robert Windham.

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J. H. MORSE'S SCHOOL for BOYS, 112 West 3d-st., New York.

Autumn term begins Monday, Sept. 25.

Number limited. Mr. Morse will be at home after September 15.

MISS CALLISON'S DAY SCHOOL for BOYS, 111 West 3d-st., New York.

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